

We claim:

1. A taste masked particle comprising a core containing an active ingredient and a continuous polymeric coating covering said core, said coating comprising a mixture of a) an enteric polymer; and b) an insoluble film forming polymer.

2. The particle of claim 1, wherein the surface of said particle is substantially free of active ingredient.

3. The particle of claim, wherein the coating is substantially free of plasticizer.

4. The particle of claim 1, wherein the active ingredient is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

5. The particle of claim 1, wherein the enteric polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate and cellulose acetate phthalate.

6. The particle of claim 1, wherein the insoluble film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate and ethylcellulose.

7. The particle of claim 1 further comprising a non-enteric, water soluble polymer.

8. The particle of claim 1 further comprising a surfactant.

9. The particle of claim 1 wherein the weight ratio of enteric polymer to insoluble film forming polymer in the coating is in the range of about 20:80 to about 80:20.

10. The particle of claim 1 wherein the active ingredient is at least 80% dissolved in 30 minutes in pH 7.2 phosphate buffer when tested according to USP method

II at 50 rpm and is at least 70% dissolved in 60 minutes in pH 5.6 acetate buffer when tested according to USP method II at 50 rpm.

11. A chewable tablet comprising taste masked particles, each particle comprising a core containing an active ingredient and a continuous polymeric coating covering said core, said coating comprising a mixture of a) an enteric polymer; and b) an insoluble film forming polymer.

12. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein the surfaces of the particles are substantially free of active ingredient.

13. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein the coating is substantially free of plasticizer.

14. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein the active ingredient is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

15. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein the enteric polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate and cellulose acetate phthalate.

16. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein the insoluble film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate and ethylcellulose.

17. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein said coating further comprises an ingredient selected from the group consisting of non-enteric, water soluble polymers and surfactants.

18. The chewable tablet of claim 11, wherein the weight ratio of enteric polymer to insoluble film forming polymer in the coating is in the range of about 20:80 to about 80:20.

19. A method of taste masking particles comprising an active ingredient, which comprises applying a continuous polymeric coating over said particles, said coating comprising a mixture of a) an enteric polymer; and b) an insoluble film forming polymer.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the surfaces of the particles are substantially free of active ingredient.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the coating is substantially free of plasticizer.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the active ingredient is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein the enteric polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose phthalate, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose acetate succinate and cellulose acetate phthalate.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein the insoluble film forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of cellulose acetate and ethylcellulose.

25. The method of claim 19, wherein the active ingredient is at least 80% dissolved in 30 minutes in pH 7.2 phosphate buffer when tested according to USP method II at 50 rpm and is at least 70% dissolved in 60 minutes in pH 5.6 acetate buffer when tested according to USP method II at 50 rpm.